



SDMS Doc ID 2019511

DEPARTMENT OF  
TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL  
8800 CAL CENTER DRIVE  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95826-3200  
(916) 255-3545

2019511



## TRANSMITTAL LETTER

DATE: 02-11-03

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PLEASE DELIVER

TO: Mr. Steve Armann  
WST-4  
USEPA REGION 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, CA 94105

*R.B. 2/14/03*  
*John Beach*  
*Files*

FROM: Peter Bailey Phone: (916) 255-3602

### ENCLOSURE:

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Mr. Armann, Rick Moss requested that I send you a copy of this presentation about perchlorate.

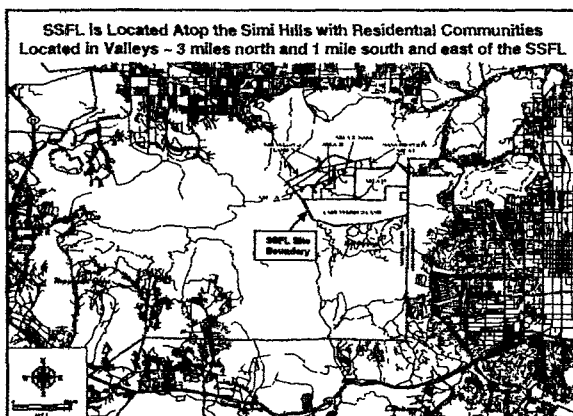
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If you have any questions, please give me a call.

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Peter

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### Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

- Rocket Propellant Basics
- Perchlorate Usage at the SSFL
- Occurrences of Perchlorate at SSFL
- Plausible Transport Mechanisms
  - Atmospheric Deposition
  - Surface Water
  - Groundwater
- Evaluation of Atmospheric Deposition
- Evaluation of Surface Water Transport to Simi Valley
- Evaluation of Groundwater Transport at the SSFL
  - Distribution of Perchlorate in SV Groundwater
  - Other Plausible Sources
  - Perchlorate Occurrence in Ahmanson Ranch Well M-1
- Summary

### Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

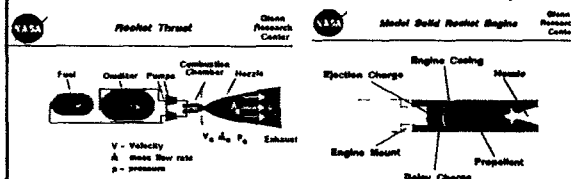
- Rocket Propellant Basics

### Many Rocket Engines were Tested at the SSFL, Wasn't a Lot of Perchlorate Used?

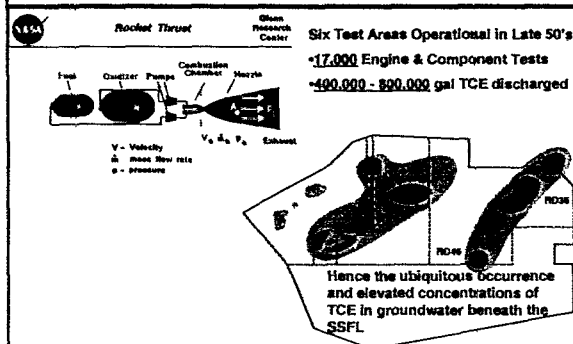
There are two basic types of rocket propellants:

Liquid Propellants  
(e.g., kerosene)

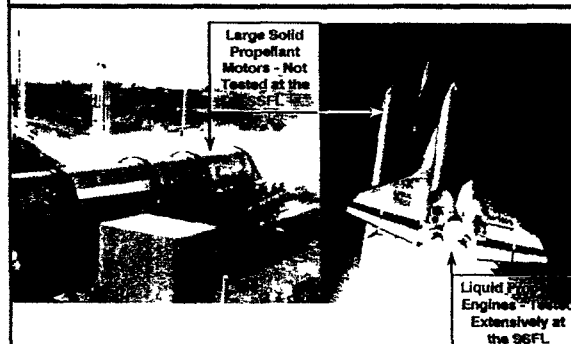
Solid Propellants  
(can use perchlorate  
as the oxidizer)



### Liquid Rockets that Used Kerosene as the Fuel Required Flushing with TCE for Safety

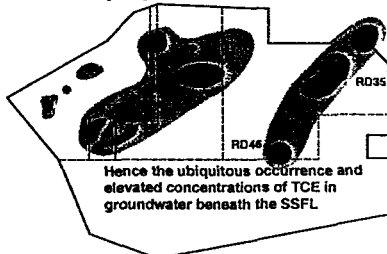


### Solid Propellant Motors for Lifting Spacecraft Into Orbit are Large and were not Tested at the SSFL



## Rocket Propellant Basics - Key Point

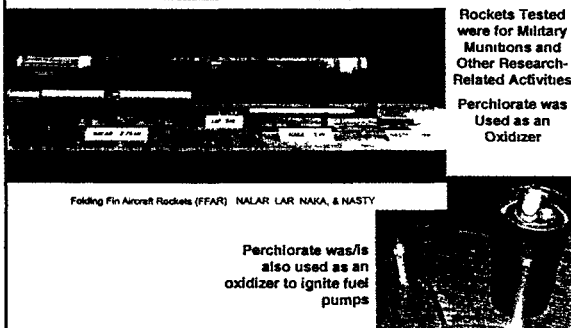
- Liquid propellant engines were/ are tested at SSFL (significant historical TCE use), not solid propellant motors



## Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

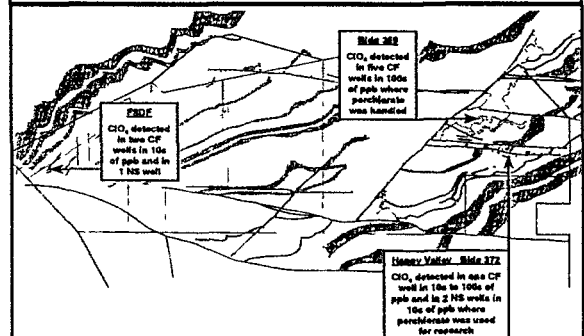
- Perchlorate Usage at the SSFL

## Some Small Rockets with Solid Propellants Were Tested at the SSFL



## ClO<sub>4</sub> has been Detected in Groundwater Beneath the SSFL Coincident with Where it was Handled/ Used

Samples from all other wells (>200) and springs (-12) surrounding these isolated detections did not contain perchlorate

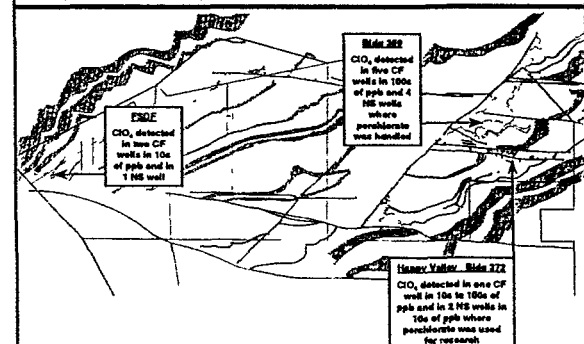


## Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

- Occurrences of Perchlorate at SSFL

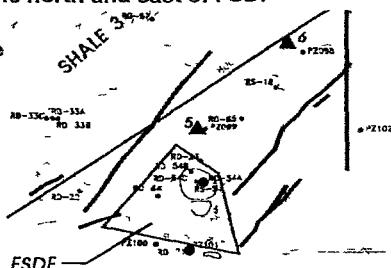
## ClO<sub>4</sub> has been Detected in Groundwater Beneath the SSFL Coincident with Where it was Handled/ Used

Samples from all other wells (>200) and springs (-12) surrounding these isolated detections did not contain ClO<sub>4</sub>

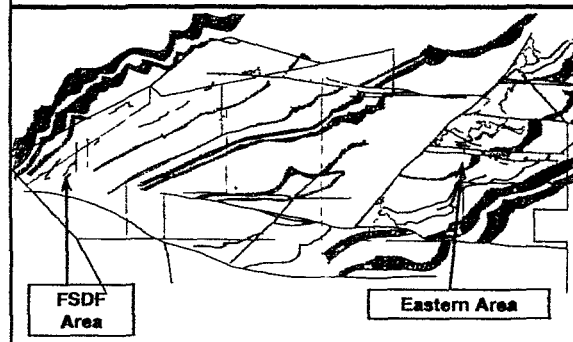


### Analysis of Samples from Groundwater and Springs Shows Small Local Release

- Shallow and deep groundwater at FSDF
- Springs to the north and east of FSDF
  - DTSC
  - Rocketdyne

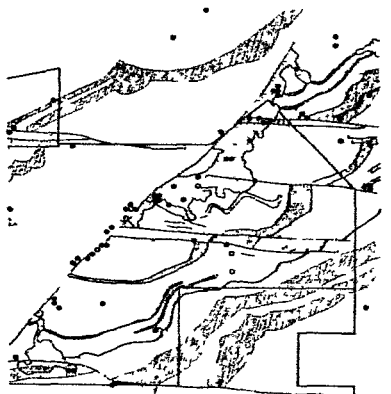


### Distribution of Wells That Do Not Contain Perchlorate



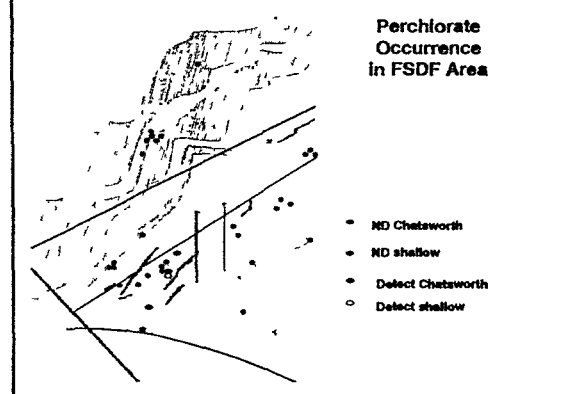
### Perchlorate Occurrence in Northeast Area Groundwater

- ND Chatsworth
- ND Near Surface
- Detect Chatsworth
- Detect Near Surface



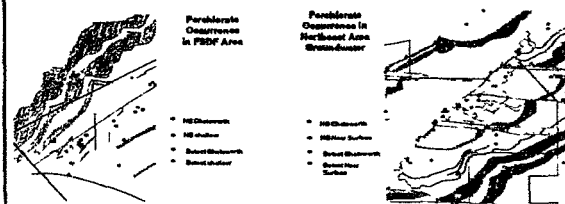
### Perchlorate Occurrence in FSDF Area

- ND Chatsworth
- ND shallow
- Detect Chatsworth
- Detect shallow



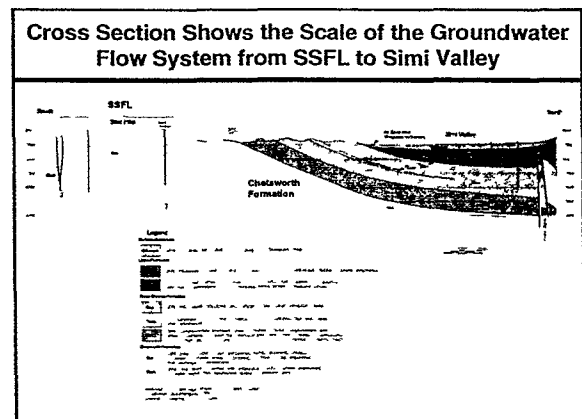
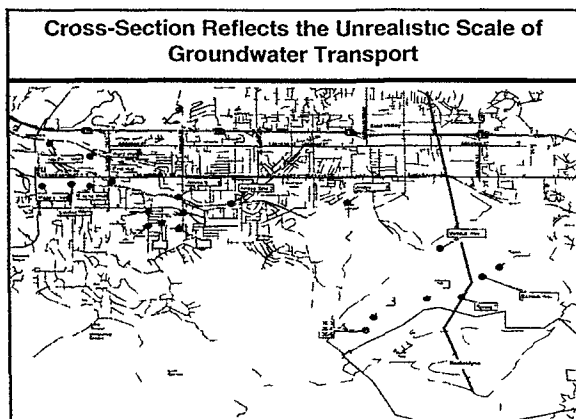
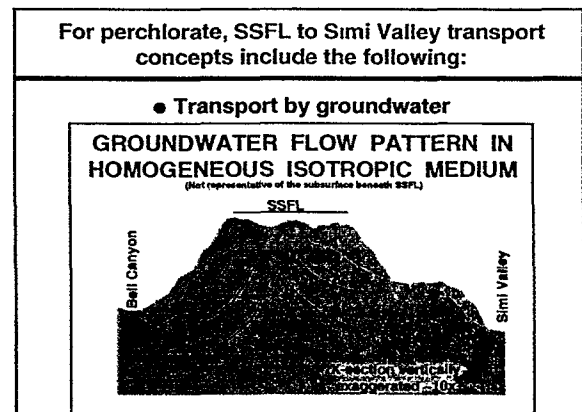
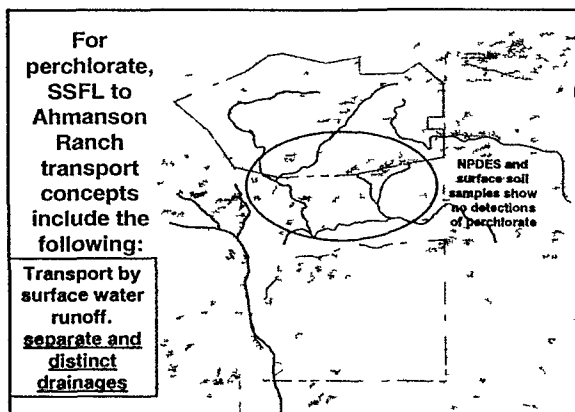
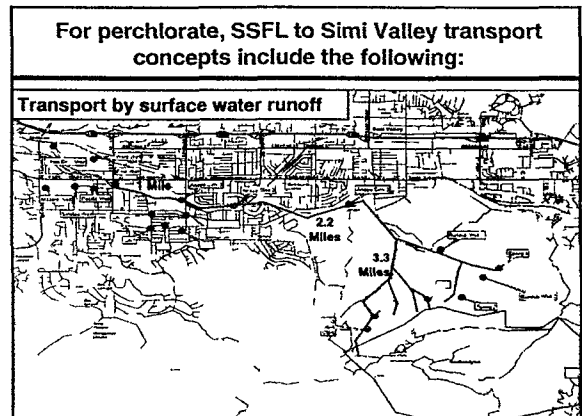
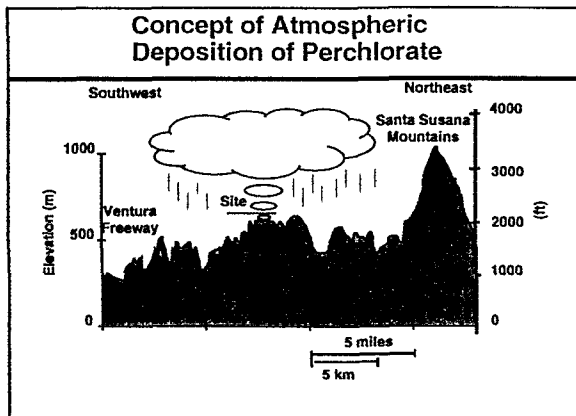
### Occurrences of Perchlorate at SSFL - Key Points

- Perchlorate is found coincident with where it was used
- Samples from locations peripheral to where it occurs at the SSFL do not contain perchlorate → localized releases



### Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

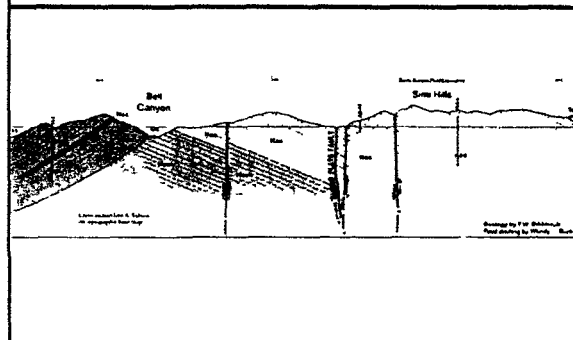
- Plausible Transport Mechanisms
  - Atmospheric Deposition
  - Surface Water
  - Groundwater



Cross-Section  
Reflects the  
Unrealistic Scale  
of Groundwater  
Transport



Cross Section Shows the Scale of the Groundwater  
Flow System from SSFL to Ahmanson Ranch



#### Plausible Transport Mechanisms - Key Points

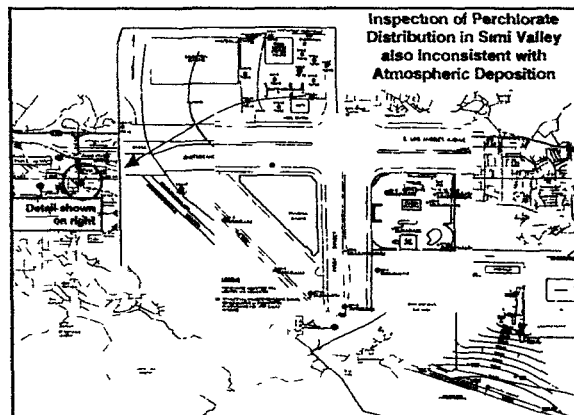
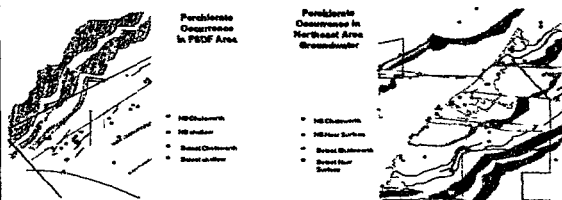
- **Atmospheric Deposition**
  - Concept of emissions to atmosphere and redeposition onto ground with subsequent infiltration
- **Surface Water**
  - Surface water transport distances to Simi Valley are between 3 and 5 miles away
  - Surface water drainages between SSFL and Ahmanson Ranch are separate and hydraulically distinct
- **Groundwater**
  - Transport requires flow through miles of complex subsurface geology

#### Why isn't SSFL Perchlorate Source? Topics to be Covered

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- **Evaluation of Atmospheric Deposition**
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#### Inspection of On-site Perchlorate Distribution Inconsistent with Atmospheric Deposition

- Many wells ND, not indicative of wide-spread distribution associated with atmospheric deposition



### Atmospheric Deposition of Perchlorate - Key Point

- Inspection of the distribution of perchlorate in wells located on- and off-site does not reveal a pattern indicative of atmospheric deposition
  - Detections are sporadic and without a systematic pattern

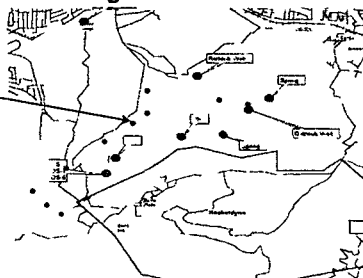
### Why isn't SSFL $\text{ClO}_4$ Source? Topics to be Covered

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- Evaluation of Surface Water Transport to Simi Valley
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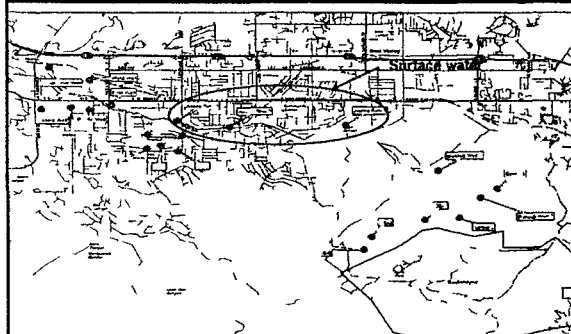
### Soil Leachate Sampling from SSFL & Adjacent Drainages are Almost All ND

- DTSC Collected Soil Leachate Samples from Meier and Runkle Canyon Drainages - All but one ND

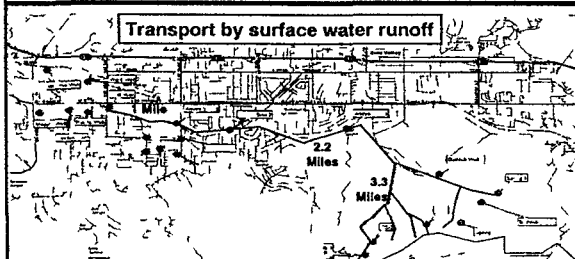
Sample contained 4.8  $\mu\text{g/L}$ . Mass of perchlorate in 12 lbs of soil estimated at 20  $\mu\text{grams}$  or ~4  $\mu\text{g/kg}$ . Subsequent samples by DTSC did not confirm this single detection.



### DTSC's Sampling of Surface Water from Arroyo Simi Showed No Perchlorate to be Present



### Summary of Perchlorate Occurrences in Simi Valley and Likelihood of Transport from SSFL



Data collected from soils, drainages and surface water show that the SSFL is not the perchlorate source to SV groundwater

### Evaluation of Surface Water Transport - Key Point

- Extensive sampling of surface water and drainages discharging to Arroyo Simi, show this transport pathway to be incomplete

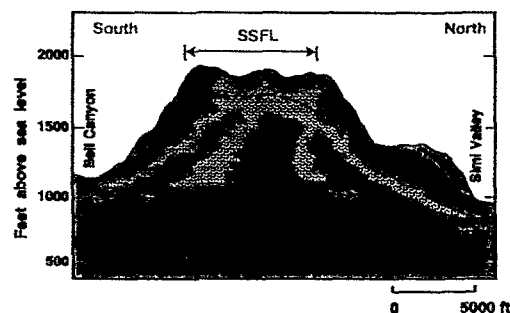


# Why isn't SSFL CIO<sub>4</sub> Source?

## Topics to be Covered

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- **Evaluation of Groundwater Transport at the SSFL**
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  -
- 

Assuming homogeneous flow, the velocity profile is



**Average Linear Groundwater Velocity**

The diagram shows a square rock matrix with a complex network of fractures. A horizontal line with arrows at both ends passes through the center, representing the flow path. To the right of the matrix, a vector labeled  $\bar{v}$  indicates the direction of flow.

$$\bar{v} = \frac{K_b [\Delta h / \Delta L]}{\phi_f} \quad \text{where } \phi_f = \text{bulk fracture porosity}$$

$$K_b = \text{bulk hydraulic conductivity}$$

Calculations Show Average Linear Groundwater Velocity  
in Moderately Permeable Sandstone to be High

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$$\bar{V} = \frac{\text{Darcy Flux}}{\text{Fracture Porosity}} = \frac{K_b (dh/dL)}{\phi_f}$$

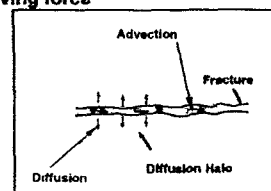
K	10 <sup>-4</sup> cm/s
dh/dL	0.01
φ <sub>f</sub>	0.001

***$\bar{V} \approx 1000 \text{ feet per year}$***

A high-contrast, black and white photograph of a rocky, mountainous terrain. The image is framed by a thick black border. The text "COLUMBIAN UNIVERSITY" is visible in the upper center of the image.

### ➤ Advection

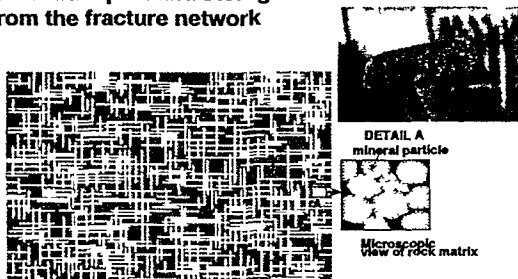
- Bulk fluid movement (water, air, DNAPL)
- Hydraulic gradient as driving force
- Darcy's Law (1856)



### ➤ Diffusion

- Solute movement *within* the bulk fluid
- Chemical concentration gradients as driving force
- Fick's Law (1852)

### Physical characteristics of the rock matrix allow transport and storage of chemicals from the fracture network



*Journal of Hydrology* 25 (1975) 159-166  
© North Holland Publishing Company Amsterdam - Printed in The Netherlands

## THE CHALK GROUNDWATER TRITIUM ANOMALY - A POSSIBLE EXPLANATION

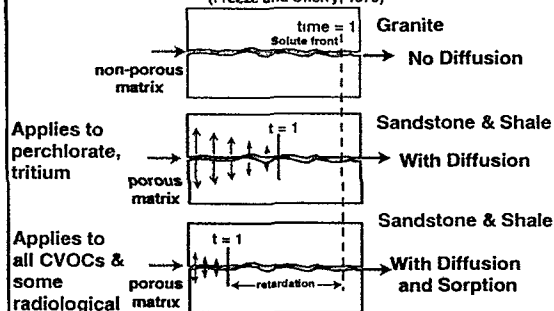
**S.S.D. FOSTER**  
*Hydrogeological Department, Institute of Geological Sciences, London (Great Britain)*  
(Received August 30 1974 accepted September 3, 1974)

## ABSTRACT

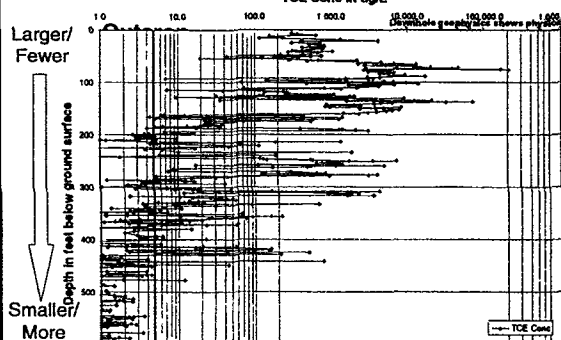
Foster S.S.D. 1975. The Chalk groundwater tritium anomaly: a possible explanation.  
J Hydrol. 25 159-166

Attention is drawn to a mechanism which could profoundly complicate the interpretation of tritium determinations in investigations of the rate of groundwater movement in the British Chalk and other physically-comparable formations. It could explain the anomalously low levels of thermonuclear tritium currently observed in the saturated zone of the Chalk aquifer, with important implications for pollution control.

## (Freeze and Cherry, 1979)



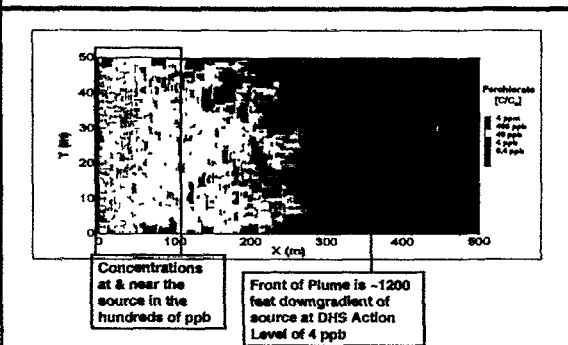
**sale of INV**  
**TCE Conc In URM**



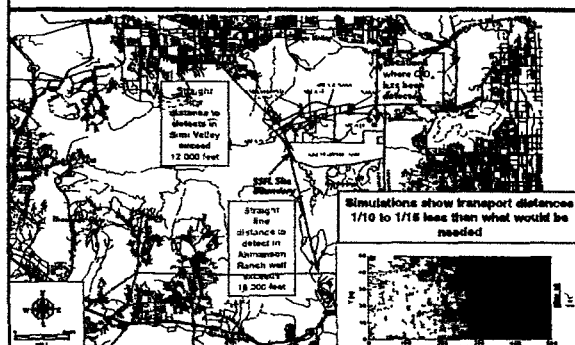
<p><b>Fracture Network Characteristics</b></p> <p>Mean Aperture = 100 <math>\mu\text{m}</math> (variable apertures)</p> <p>Overall Bulk Hydraulic Conductivity <math>K_b = 5.2 \times 10^{-4}</math> cm/sec</p> <p>Bulk Fracture Porosity <math>\phi_b = 1.2 \times 10^{-4}</math></p>	<p>Average gradient = 0.005</p> <p>Average linear groundwater velocity = 720 m/year</p>
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Characteristics derived from data collected at the SSFL

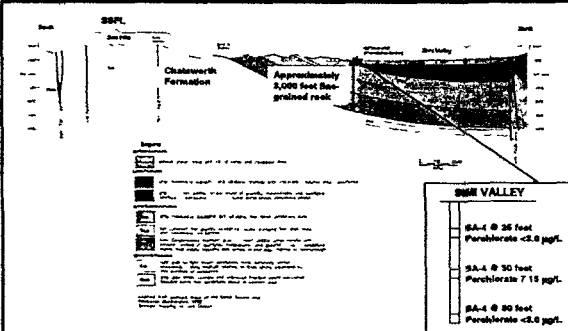
**Perchlorate Contours @ 50 years from Time of Initial Release  
Likened to Present Day with Initial Release in 1950**



**Diffusion of  $\text{ClO}_4$  into the Fractured Rock Matrix Retards Transport Even Though Sorption Plays No Role**



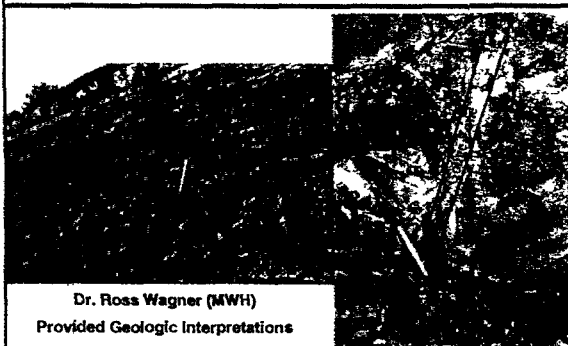
**Groundwater Data from Simi Valley Show  
Deeper Groundwater is Not Impacted**



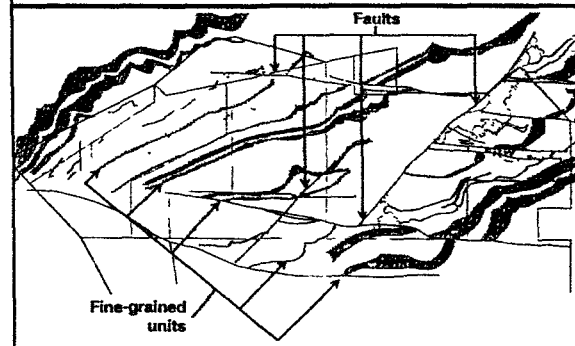
**Earlier Geologic Interpretations Indicated a Single  
Sandstone Unit & Faults as Preferred Flowpaths**



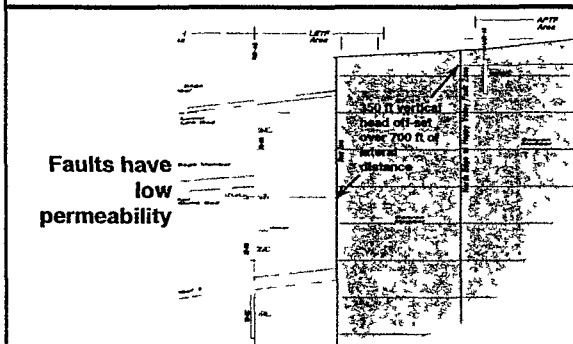
Fine-grained siltstones, shales and fault gouge are geologic features with lower permeability  
→ Opposite of preferential flow paths



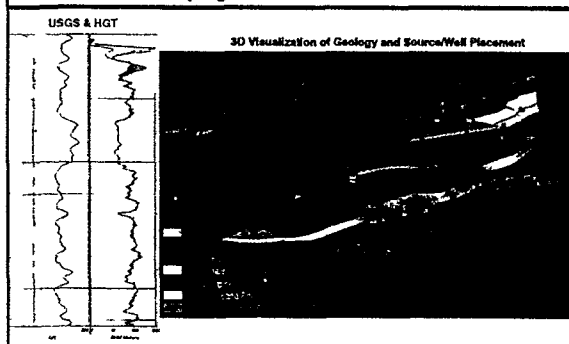
**Detailed Review and Inspection of Geologic Framework  
Shows the Presence of Many Fine-Grained Features**



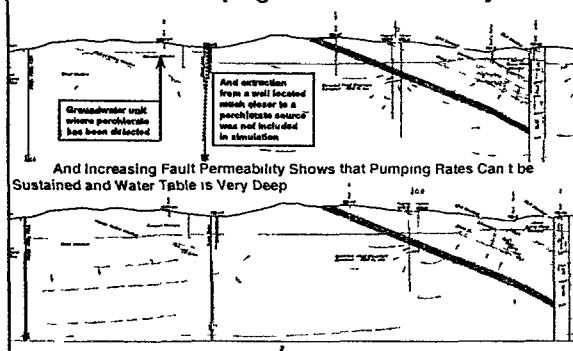
### Analysis Shows Large Off-sets in Hydraulic Head Across Faults and Other Fine-Grained Features



### Downhole Geophysical Logs Provide Control for Establishing Extent and Location of Fine-Grained Features and for Developing the 3-D Visualization of Site Data



### 2-D Flow Simulations Provide Insight into the Effect of Historical Pumping on the SSFL Flow System



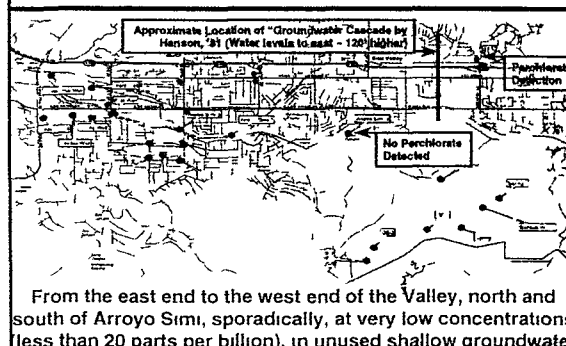
### Evaluation of Groundwater Transport at SSFL - Key Points

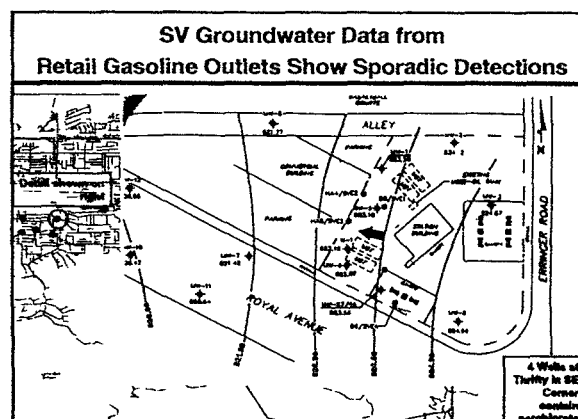
- Transport of non-sorbing solutes at SSFL is fundamentally different from granular aquifers
- Transport of perchlorate solute in groundwater is slowed due to molecular diffusion which simulations show transport distances of ~1000 feet after 50 years of releases
- Fine-grained stratigraphic units and fault gouge slows the flow of groundwater and isolates perchlorate occurrences
- Historical pumping at water supply wells captured any groundwater containing perchlorate

### Why isn't SSFL $\text{ClO}_4$ Source? Topics to be Covered

- Distribution of Perchlorate in SV Groundwater

### Where has perchlorate been found in groundwater beneath the Simi Valley?





## Why isn't SSFL ClO<sub>4</sub> Source?

### Topics to be Covered

- ### 7 Other Plausible Sources

### The Occurrence of Perchlorate at Various Distinct Locations in SV Groundwater Leads to Multiple Sources

- [illegible]

# Other Types of Point Sources Also Contain Perchlorate

## MSDS for Fireworks

**MAINTENANCE DATA SHEET & EMERGENCY RESPONSE INFORMATION**

**FIREWORKS UNABLE (EXPLOSIVE 1.4G)**  
(Formerly classified as CLASS C EXPLOSIVES (Consumer Fireworks))  
(Also known as Consumer Fireworks)

Armenia Promotional Events, Inc.  
d/b/a TNT Fireworks  
555 N. Gilbert Street  
Fullerton, CA 92633  
(714) 738-1002


DATE PREPARED: March 27 2001

**HAZARDOUS INGREDIENTS/IDENTITY INFORMATION**  
Hazardous Component: Contains pyrotechnic composition - a solid mixture of oxidizer and fuel that will burn if ignited. These items are classified as Fireworks 1.4G UN0336 by the U.S. Dept. of Transportation. No chemical composition is exposed during normal handling and storage.

**PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS**  
Solubility in Water: Slight  
Appearance and Odor: All pyrotechnic composition is contained in a cardboard casing

"Yes, potassium perchlorate is in the "oxidizer mixture."  
TNTFireworks

# Fireworks are Ubiquitous

<p>Photograph taken on Casarin St on July 5th, 2002 at 8:30 am</p>	
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## Fireworks are Ubiquitous

Fireworks have occurred at Simi Valley High School for ~ 40 years

[illegible]

## An aerial photograph of the Simi Valley area. A line points to a location on the left side of the image, labeled 'Location of perchlorate non-point source'. Another line points to a location on the right side, labeled 'Location of perchlorate detections'. A line points to a body of water in the lower left, labeled 'Arroyo Simi'. A line points to a body of water in the lower right, labeled 'Tapo Creek'. A line points to a road in the center, labeled 'Arroyo Ave'.

# EPA's Study Documented Perchlorate in Products Derived from Chilean Caliche



**Survey of Fertilizers and Related Materials for Perchlorate (ClO<sub>4</sub>)**

Final Report

**1.5 to 1.8 mg/g perchlorate detected in grab samples**

Fertilizers are normally sampled by taking repeated cores through the piles using a Missouri D tube sampler. The core samples are combined, riffled, divided, and analyzed. These practices are standard within the fertilizer industry and regulatory bodies. Across the nation, state chemists or agriculture departments are obligated to examine fertilizers to verify the manufacturers' reported grades. Sampling practices have evolved to fill those needs. Previous studies generally did not take these practices into account, concentrating instead on the analysis of the solid once a grab sample had been collected. Sampling is of course important to obtain representative results. The distribution of perchlorate is not uniform in Chilean sodium nitrate. For example, in two lots with average concentrations of 1.5 and 1.8 mg/g, individual 10.0-g grab samples ranged from 0.74 to 1.96 mg/g. (Urbanski, 2001)

Information from previous studies and from standard industry practices was used to guide the study reported on in Chapter 2.

### Chilean Nitrate Distribution Network Includes California

- Manufactured by SQM in Chile
- Distributed in USA under Bulldog brand
- Bulldog operating since 1831

**Distribution Network**

Marketing and Production Resources (WISNPK)

**SQM NORTH AMERICA**

"SQM North America sold some 75,000 tons to U.S. farmers in 1998" (EPA, 2001)

### Chilean Nitrate Distributed by SQM/Bulldog

**SQM North America Material Safety Data Sheet**

<b>SECTION I: IDENTIFICATION</b>		<b>SECTION II: HAZARD IDENTIFICATION</b>	
Product Name: Chilean Nitrate	Chemical Name: Sodium Nitrate	Signal Word: DANGER	Hazard Statement: H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.
Product Number: 1000	Chemical Formula: NaNO <sub>3</sub>	Pictogram: Corrosion	Precautionary Statement: P273 Avoid release into the environment.
<b>SECTION III: COMPOSITION</b>		<b>SECTION IV: FIRST AID MEASURES</b>	
Concentration: 100%	Impurities: None	Inhalation: Move to fresh air. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen.	Eye Contact: Flush with water for at least 15 minutes.
<b>SECTION V: TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION</b>		<b>SECTION VI: ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION</b>	
LD50 (Oral, Rat): 1.5 g/kg		Biodegradability: Not biodegradable	

Natural Sodium Nitrate Specs mds

SQM is the largest producer of Sodium Nitrate in the world. Sodium Nitrate is extracted from natural deposits of Caliche Ore. The crushed Caliche is washed and the extracted soluble salts are crystallized. This process constitutes a unique source of natural Sodium Nitrate.

SQM Sodium Nitrate contains 16% nitrogen and many trace elements such as boron and magnesium. The main properties of these fertilizers are fully water soluble, 100% nitrate nitrogen, alkaline reaction and fast nutrient release.

### Chilean Nitrate Addresses Short-Term Nitrogen Deficiency Caused by Excessive Rain

- El Nino rain events cause soil flooding
  - N Deficiency
  - Crop Production Problems

**Ocean Temperature Departures (°C) for Niño 3.4 (5°N-5°S, 170°W-120°W)**

**Tabiti - Darwin SOI (2-month running mean)**

### Chilean Nitrate Addresses Short-Term Nitrogen Deficiency Caused by Excessive Rain

"...In 1998, El Nino's rainfall created extended periods of cold soil temperatures and excessive soil moisture (flooding in many areas) in Fresno County and counties farther south. So, in some years, N deficiency can result from cold soil and high rainfall, even in Southern California. Application of Chilean Nitrate can help reduce the production problems caused by this temporary nitrogen deficiency"

-Vice President, Agriculture, Small Planet Foods

### Chilean Nitrate Addresses Short-Term Nitrogen Deficiency Caused by Excessive Rain

**Natural Sodium Nitrate Specs mds**

**SQM** Specialty Field Fertilizers Project

SQM is the largest producer of Sodium Nitrate in the world. Sodium Nitrate is extracted from natural deposits of Caliche Ore. The crushed Caliche is washed and the extracted soluble salts are crystallized. This process constitutes a unique source of natural Sodium Nitrate.

SQM Sodium Nitrate contains 16% nitrogen and many trace elements such as boron and magnesium. The main properties of these fertilizers are fully water soluble, 100% nitrate nitrogen, alkaline reaction and fast nutrient release.

**Main uses**

SQM Sodium Nitrate can be used effectively in soils and crops when a quick action high nitrogen fertilizer is needed. All its nitrogen is available for immediate root absorption with no need to undergo chemical transformations. The quick acting nitrate nitrogen speeds up crop development and strengthens plant resistance to pests and diseases. These effects are particularly important at initial growth stages during cold springs.

For organic agriculture Sodium Nitrate is allowed to provide 20% of the total demand for Nitrogen (USDA Organic Rules)

- Rapidly available nutrients as in Sodium Nitrate assure better yields to high value crops
- Sodium Nitrate increase yield and quality of fruit orchards
- Nitrate nitrogen allows for a fast response in short season vegetables

### Chilean Nitrate Popular as a Natural Fertilizer on the West Coast

- Readily available to crops
- Easy to apply
- Available on short notice

May 1 2002

National Organic Standards Board

I represent Grimmway Farms and Cal-Organic Vegetable Company in Mazatzfield, Ca. Our companies have been farming organically since 1984 and are currently farming organic vegetables on over 1500 acres. We'd like to ask for your assistance in supporting the use of Sodium (Chilean) Nitrate in organic farming.

Sodium (Chilean) Nitrate is a mined mineral from northern Chile. It has proved to be of vital importance in organic farming. The quick nitrogen release provided by this product is essential in the growing of short season crops and crops grown during cold season harvest. This product accompanied by compost at preplant along with other fertilizers like Processed Manure is without a doubt absolutely necessary in the growing of organic vegetables. It also provides our products with the lasting capacity to weather long transportations to broader markets.

## Chilean Nitrate Popular as a Natural Fertilizer on the West Coast



Small Planet Foods

September 3, 2002

TO: National Organic Standards Board Members  
National Organic Program, USDA

While there is a lack of science to support concerns about soil and environmental harm related to the use of Chilean nitrate, there is plenty of experience among organic farmers to support the need to retain this material as a fertilizer option for organic production. I have worked with west coast (California, Oregon, Washington) organic fresh market and processing vegetable growers (including tomatoes, corn, peas, green beans, carrots, potatoes, onions, lettuce, peppers, squash, broccoli, spinach, cauliflower, sugar snap peas, melons) since 1989. While all of these crops can be successfully grown without Chilean nitrate if the weather cooperates, it is common for at least one crop in the rotation (3 to 5 years) to need a Chilean nitrate application due to cold temperatures and/or wet soils that prevent adequate nitrogen release from soil organic matter, compost, manure, etc. for proper crop growth and maturity. Because such weather conditions cannot be predicted, it is difficult to plan for them. Chilean nitrate, used in accordance with Section 205.602(h) of the Final Rule, gives organic farmers a tool they need to prevent economic loss associated with nitrogen deficiency created by excessive rainfall and extended cold temperatures. Alternative nitrogen fertilizers are inadequate to address the timing, solubility, and application methods needed to mitigate the impact of these weather events.

## Bulldog Markets Chilean Nitrate for Some Fruits and Vegetables Among Historic SV Crops



Berries  
Broccoli  
Brussel sprouts  
Burley Tobacco  
Cabbage  
Carrots  
Cauliflower  
Citrus  
Collards  
Cotton  
Cucumber  
Flowers  
Fruit trees  
Garlic  
Kale  
Lawn and Turf  
Lettuce  
Mustard  
Onions  
Peppers  
Potatoes  
Pumpkin  
Shallots  
Squash  
Sweet Potatoes  
Table grapes  
Tomatoes  
Virginia Tobacco  
Watermelon

## Simi Valley Crops

Simi Valley, 1960s: almonds, apricots, barley, bean, citrus, figs, grape, olive, sugar beets, tomatoes, walnuts

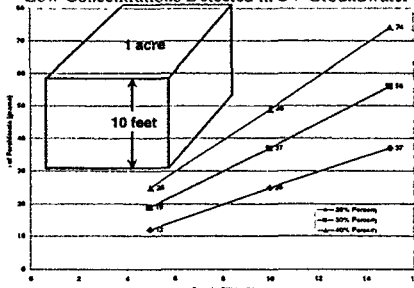


## EPA: Chilean Nitrate Accounts for 0.1% of Total U.S. Fertilizer Use - How Can Fertilizer be a Perchlorate Source?

Mass of perchlorate required to produce concentrations in groundwater over 1 acre and 10 feet of aquifer  
Only 10s to 100s of grams are required



Little Perchlorate Mass is Needed to Produce the Low Concentrations Detected in SV Groundwater



## EPA: Chilean Nitrate Accounts for 0.1% of Total U.S. Fertilizer Use - How Can Fertilizer be a Perchlorate Source?

•Case Study: Apply 5 pounds N per 1,000 square feet annually

•SQM sodium nitrate is 16% nitrogen

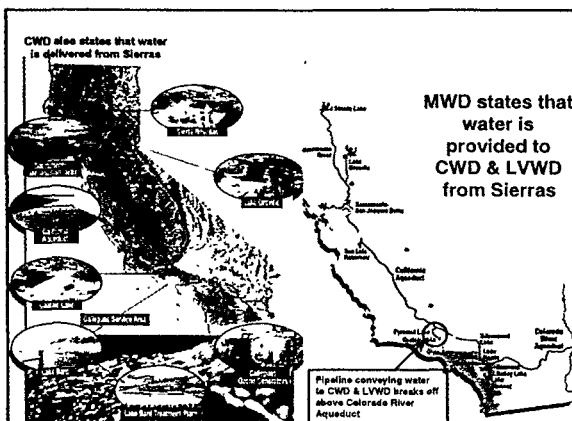
•31.25 pounds SQM per 1,000 square feet annually

•SQM sodium nitrate contains ~1.5 mg perchlorate per gram fertilizer

•21.3 grams perchlorate per 1,000 square feet annually

### Conclusion:

Local, small-scale Chilean Nitrate application is a very plausible source of perchlorate



## Other Plausible Sources in Simi Valley Groundwater - Key Points

• Perchlorate used in fireworks, road flares or naturally present in Chilean nitrate fertilizers are much more plausible reasons for the occurrences in Simi Valley Groundwater

• Colorado River water is not a plausible source



### Why isn't SSFL $\text{ClO}_4$ Source? Topics to be Covered

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- Perchlorate Occurrence in Ahmanson Ranch Well M-1

### What is Known about Ahmanson Ranch Well M-1, Where Perchlorate was Detected?

### Approximate Stratigraphic Position of M-1, Projected on Section

Well is artesian. Due to the presence of fine-grained units atop a semi-friable sandstone and the well penetrating the sandstone unit, which is under confined conditions?

### Was a Reported Nursery the Possible Source of Perchlorate at M-1?

What is the geologic and hydraulic relationship, if any, between the former nursery Well No. 1 and Well M-1?

### Geologic cross-section reveals the implausible transport of perchlorate from the SSFL to Ahmanson

In any event, it is implausible that the attenuated perchlorate diffused into the Chatsworth Formation, and influenced by decades of groundwater extraction would flow away from the extraction wells (located a thousand feet or so away from the SSFL sources), across three faults and to a well in a non-conformably placed formation 16,000 feet away

### Perchlorate Occurrence in Ahmanson Ranch Well M-1 - Key Points

- One detection in one sampling event is not confirmation that perchlorate is present in Ahmanson Ranch Well M-1
- Geology between SSFL and Ahmanson Ranch, attenuation of perchlorate associated with matrix diffusion, and groundwater capture from historical pumping of SSFL water supply wells show the groundwater flow pathway to be incomplete

### Why isn't SSFL $\text{ClO}_4$ Source? Topics to be Covered

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- Summary

### Summary

- At the SSFL
- SSFL used limited amounts of perchlorate because liquid propelled rocket engines were extensively tested, which resulted in TCE releases
  - Perchlorate occurrences at SSFL are coincident with usages and are surrounded by sampling locations that do not contain perchlorate
  - Perchlorate in SSFL groundwater is attenuated due to matrix diffusion, unlike granular aquifers
- In Simi Valley
- The surface water transport pathway from SSFL to Simi Valley is incomplete as demonstrated by sampling results
  - The distribution of perchlorate in Simi Valley groundwater is inconsistent with any plausible SSFL release scenario

### Summary (Continued)

- Other plausible sources of perchlorate occurrences in Simi Valley include fireworks, road flares and Chilean nitrate fertilizers
- At Ahmanson Ranch
- Geology between SSFL and Ahmanson Ranch, attenuation of perchlorate associated with matrix diffusion, and groundwater capture from historical pumping of SSFL water supply wells show the groundwater flow pathway to be incomplete
  - Surface water pathway is incomplete because of separate and distinct drainages

### Data and Scientific Analyses Demonstrate:

SSFL is not the Source of Perchlorate Occurrences in:

Simi Valley or at Ahmanson Ranch